

(c) whether the Government propose to take concrete steps for exploration of lead in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following investigations for Lead in association with Zinc and Copper have been carried out by Geological Survey of India (GSI) during the last 5 years : - (i) Exploration for basemetals (Cu+Pb+Zn) in Kusumghat, Dhawa, Biharkari, Charkipahari, Tulsitanr prospects around Pindara in Hesathu-Belabathan sector. (ii) Integrated geological, geochemical survey of Hesathu-Belabathan Polymetallic mineralised belt with Chhota-Nagpur granite Gneiss province in Banka, Deoghar and Giridih district. (iii) Exploration for basemetals (Cu+Pb+Zn) in Charkipahari- Tulsitanr project in Hesath-Blabathan sector, Deoghar and Banka district. (iv) Exploration for Polymetallic basemetal mineralisation in Jamuniya prospect, NNE of Bagodar, Giridih district.

(c) and (d) Though Lead mineralisation has been established in most of the places, the results are not encouraging. Hence, no further exploration is planned in the area except in Gamuniya prospect.

Functioning of RPF and GRP

4171. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the functions of RPF and G.R.P. and the difference between the two;

(b) whether the functioning of these forces is hampered due to the existence of two forces;

(c) whether suggestions have been received for constitution of a single force in place of the two;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The functions of Government Railway Police are posicing in trains and railway premises which include prevention and detection of crimes and maintenance of law and order. The functions of RPF are to provide protection and security to the railway property including property entrusted to the Railways for transportation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Suggestions are received, from time to time, to improve upon the existing system and one of the suggestions under consideration was to constitute a single force in place of the two forces of GRP and RPF. There are practical difficulties in agreeing to this suggestion because GRP is a part of Police force of the

State concerned and policing is a "State subject" while RPF is basically a watch and ward staff of the Ministry of Railways, now upgraded to be one of the Armed Forces of the Union. Even if the State Governments agree to empowering a Central Government Force to do policing in railway premises and in trains and constitutional hurdle is crossed, it has to be assessed whether the new set up will improve upon matters or otherwise, because at present Government Railway Police has all the back-up of State Police Force to have criminal intelligence and armed Police to deal with law and order situations. Presently, however, there is a need for State Governments to make Government Railway Police more effective under the existing system itself.

[English]

Introduction of Passenger Train between Ratlam and Bhopal

4172. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a demand has been made since a long time for introduction of a passenger train direct from Ratlam between Ratlam and Bhopal under the Ratlam division of the Western Railway;

(b) if so, whether an assurance was also given by the senior officers in this regard; and

(c) the reasons for not introducing the above train service so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Some demands/representations have been received in this regard.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Operational and resource constraints.

Introduction of Bandel-Sealdah Locals

4173. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not introducing Bandel-Sealdah locals inspite of several public demands; and

(b) the reasons for neglecting public demands by the Eastern Railway Authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Four pairs of direct services are available connecting Sealdah and Bandel. Further 15 pairs of services on Sealdah-Naihati and 18 pairs on Naihati-Bandel serve the needs of Sealdah-Bandel passengers. Introduction of additional services between Sealdah and Bandel has not been found feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.